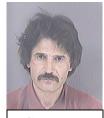


HOLLISTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

POLICE ARREST ONE AFTER VEHICLE PURSUIT



Cesar Lopez

HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA – *October 8*, 2008 – On the night of October 7, 2009 an officer of the Hollister Police attempted to stop a vehicle for a Vehicle Code violation. The driver did not yield and led police in a chase that culminated in an orchard near Wright Road. The suspect refused to exit the vehicle and was ultimately taken into custody after a police officer broke a window of the suspect's car and used his TASER to overcome the man's resistance.

At approximately 11:30 p.m., Hollister Police Officer Chris Wells attempted to stop a car for a traffic violation. The driver initially began to yield near the corner of Fifth and Line Streets. He then accelerated from the area, driving at excessive speeds and through stop signs.

The suspect drove to the north end of Westside Boulevard, where he began driving his vehicle in the orchards in an attempt to get away. After driving through several orchards and plowed fields, the suspect's vehicle became "high-centered" and lost traction. When officers approached him, the suspect locked himself in the car and refused to come out. Officer Wells and Sergeant James Egan were able to gain entry into the car by breaking out a side window. The suspect continued to resist police efforts to extricate him from the vehicle and to comply with commands to show officers his hands. A TASER was deployed to gain control of the suspect. He was taken into custody after a brief struggle.

The suspect, 47-year-old Cesar Lopez of Hollister, was transported to the San Benito County Jail and booked for failure to yield, resisting arrest, possession of drug paraphernalia and parole violations.

Anyone with information regarding this or other incidents is requested to contact the Hollister Police Department at 636-4330. Persons wishing to remain anonymous may call **WeTIP** at **(800) 78-CRIME**.

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